

## ***City Council Study Session Summary***

**April 25, 2017**

**Library Meeting Room, 951 Spruce Street  
7:00 PM**

The City Council met in a study session at 7:00 p.m. in the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Meeting Room at the Louisville Public Library at 951 Spruce Street, Louisville, Colorado. The following persons were present:

City Council Present: Mayor Bob Muckle  
Council member Jay Keany  
Council member Chris Leh  
Mayor Pro Tem Jeff Lipton  
Council member Susan Loo  
Council member Dennis Maloney  
Council member Ashley Stolzmann

Staff Present: Malcolm Fleming, City Manager  
Heather Balser, Deputy City Manager  
Chris Neves, Information Technology Director  
Joe Stevens, Parks and Recreation Director  
Rob Zuccaro, Planning and Building safety Director  
Dawn Burgess, Executive Assistant to the City Manager

Members of Youth Advisory Board

Members of Historic Preservation Commission and Historic Commission

Members of Open Space Board

Members of Parks & Public Landscaping Advisory Board

Members of Public

*Call to Order* – The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Muckle

### **Youth Advisory Board Annual Report**

Youth Advisory Board members gave an overview of the past year which included:

Food drive, Pancakes with Santa, serving food to homeless, St. Patrick's Day dinner served to seniors, Father-Daughter dance "Tulip Twist",

A year-long project was conducted to encourage people to walk around Louisville.

Members of the YAB asked Council: will you try out our walk your city signs and help spread the word about them? The Mayor answered yes.

YAB asked what projects Council would like to have YAB do in the future. Council member Maloney said the same projects; the Mayor said he likes the walking project. Council member and YAB Liaison Keany said the group tries to visit other boards. The biggest challenge is that the group meets only from October – May. Council member Keany suggested it be a year-round board. He talked about the placement of the signs.

Council member Maloney encouraged YAB members to attend the Rec Center expansion meetings.

Council member Stolzmann encouraged the YAB to promote other City programs.

Mayor Pro Tem Lipton suggested the YAB welcome new residents to Kestrel. He also suggested intergenerational projects.

Council member and YAB Liaison Keany thanked the staff liaisons: Mandy Perera and Jessica Schwartz.

Mayor Muckle presented certificates to those who have completed their term on the YAB and thanked them for their service.

### **Discussion – Potential Ballot Questions for November Election**

City Manager Malcolm Fleming introduced the topic: a draft ordinance allowing the city to provide high-speed internet services, telecommunication services, and/or cable television.

Several members of public spoke saying they would like it on the ballot. The Mayor said Council has been waiting for the State to bring a bill forward and they have not. Council decided not to wait for the State. This ordinance would allow us to exempt ourselves from SB152 limitations.

Deputy City Manager Heather Balser talked about a draft ordinance to continue the city's temporary sales tax for historic preservation purposes for an additional 10 years starting on January 1, 2019. The draft included language to expand the purposes for which sales and use taxes in the historic preservation fund may be

spent to authorize up to 20% of the proceeds to be used for operating and maintaining the Louisville Museum Campus. Additionally, the draft language included expanding to citywide the area within which historic preservation funds may be spent.

Deputy City Manager Basler asked for feedback. Councilors requested a map of the current old town overlay, a report on what money has been raised to date and projects that have been funded along with their addresses.

Council member Maloney suggested there are actually 3 items, renew funding, potentially using money for the museum and expanding the boundaries. He said we should look at renewing. He discussed that the draft language included continuing the tax now as well as funds for operating the museum – he would like to separate those items on the ballot.

Council member Loo said the “up to 20%” is concerning to her. What exactly is the number? She suggested a set percentage. Balser said the intent was the Museum may not need the full 20%. It is for operations and maintenance. The Historic Preservation Commission and Historical Commission wanted Council flexibility to approve only what is needed.

Council member Stolzmann said to set a policy on the “up to” and whether to supplant the existing funding. Transportation funding bill is dead – would like to see what our total sales tax would be.

Mayor Pro Tem Lipton said he struggles with this. He has worked on task forces: it takes a lot of explaining. People will want answers to questions. The City may have the cart before the horse. Perhaps build the facility first then ask for additional operating and maintenance. There needs to be a business plan. Balser said the Museum conducted a Master Plan, Needs Assessment, and Business Plan recently adopted by City Council. Background on the Master Plan will be included the next discussion. Lipton stated optics will need to be very clear.

Council member Leh cautioned that the measures may cannibalize each other. People have some measure of weariness having 3 tax initiatives on one ballot.

Council member Loo said some people believe the Museum is being funded currently out of historic preservation funds. She does not know if there is enough political will to support the museum.

Mayor Pro Tem Lipton said we may be overreaching. He suggested possibly expanding the boundaries but do not make it city-wide.

Mayor Muckle said there are a couple of possibilities: modest expansion, include language ie: buildings of exceptional merit.

Public Comments:

Language can be crafted that would honor the intent of capturing properties outside of the original boundaries.

I am in favor of lifting geographic restrictions.

Not in favor on new buildings getting historic money.

Mayor said in terms of sharing fund with the Museum, having a cap solves a lot of concerns. It is a good plan.

Council member Stolzmann suggested that we ask for what we need now, now. Then the City could ask for capital and additional operations and maintenance.

Council member Maloney said this tax expires in 2019, we have a year to discuss and give clear direction.

Mayor Muckle said this has been discussed at length, multiple times. Council member Maloney said that a policy decision has never been reached.

Mayor Muckle said to ask for continuation of the preservation tax.

City Council requested this be brought back to a City Council meeting for further discussion and requested information on options for implementation.

### **Discussion – Open Space Funding Allocations**

City Manager Fleming led a discussion regarding the allocation of Open Space and Parks Fund.

There are four primary sources:

- Open Space and Park tax revenues
- General fund reserves
- Capital project fund tax revenue
- Impact fees (trail and park improvements)

There is roughly \$3m that can be transferred. All funds are somewhat interchangeable which provides some flexibility. Mayor Pro Tem Lipton said the City needs to be careful not to mingle ongoing funds with one time money.

Council member Stolzmann said we don't have a good policy around what maintenance and operations needs the city has in in Open Space and Parks Fund because we fund capital projects first.

Fleming reviewed sources and uses and discussed how the City calculates reserves. He reviewed targets for funding reserves as well as discussed why the City keeps that money separated, not just transfer, as it is policy.

The City will have to plan for escalation of price per acre. Perhaps apply a trend analysis.

To achieve a minimum fund balance, the City would end up with negative fund balance. The City needs \$2m to comply with existing policy. More information when the City considers the budget amendment and carryforwards.

How to cover roughly \$3m:

- Transfer from general fund
- Reduce capital expenditures
- Reduce operating expenditure
- Secure grants
- Adopt new news
- Ask voters for tax increase

Discussion of funding:

Should the City look at all projects including carryforwards?

The City needs to consider if it is underfunding maintenance on open space and parks.

Carryforward discussion:

- Relationship between what the City needs for operations.
- Something that will drive a level of service.
- Reprogram our appetite for capital.
- More on weed control, native vegetation, suggested level of service.

There are a lot of things that need to be handled for parks including levels of maintenance.

Public:

- Do baseline and do research and find out service levels.
- Invest in resource management that is data driven.
- Reserve for acquisition over time can shrink and move to management
- Shift from acquisition mode to management.
- Parks struggle with maintenance.

**City Manager's Report & Advanced Agenda**

Changes to agenda for 5/2 – Standard sales tax definition will move and municipal water management plan will be on regular agenda not consent

**Identification of Future Agenda Items**

**Adjourn 9:03 pm**

*Submitted by – Dawn Burgess  
April 26, 2017*